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Inventors : Weigele et al.
For : Purine Derivatives

Art Group : 1624
Examiner : Berch, Mark L.

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Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

January 13, 2003

Request for Three Month Extension & Response to Office Action

This is in Response to the Office Action mailed on 7/12/02, a response to which was originally due on 10/12/02. Applicants hereby request a three-month extension for responding and authorize the Commissioner to charge the fee for such extension to Deposit Account No. 01-2315. The new deadline is now Monday, 1/13/03, and this response should be considered timely filed.

Amendments

The claims and abstract have been amended as shown in the clean and marked up documents which are attached. Many of the claim amendments are formal in nature (e.g. relating to multiple dependencies, punctuation, definitions or language issues) and are being made for reasons other than substantive reasons affecting patentability. In a number of cases, definitions of variable moieties were added where missing. The added definitions were the generic definitions present in many locations within the specification, as well as in the original claims.

Deletions of claims or other loss of claimed subject matter are being made solely to focus the remaining prosecution of this case on the remaining subject matter, rather than in acquiescence to any ground for objection or rejection. Accordingly, the amendments made herein are being submitted without prejudice to the subsequent prosecution of claims to some or all of the subject matter which might be lost by virtue of this paper.

Response

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's careful review of this case, and provide below their comments on issues raised in the Office Action.

(a) Claim Objections

The claims have been amended to avoid improper multiple dependencies. These amendments, which are formal rather than substantive in nature, should render moot this ground for objection.